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Ms. Renata Hesse
Trial Attorney
Antitrust Division
Department of Justice
610 D Street NW, Suite 1200
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Ms. Hesse,

As a member of the North Carolina General Assembly from Charlotte, I would like the heartily endorse the settlement agreement in the Microsoft case that is before Judge Kollar Kotelly. The settlement not only has approval of the federal government and the company but also the attorney general in North Carolina.

As with any settlement, both sides will derive benefits and have to live with things they may not like. But that is much preferable to the continued litigation which has been a big burden to taxpayers and helped bring about one of the worst downturns in the stock market in recent history. For the federal government and North Carolina to continue such litigation would be intolerable to me.

In particular, I hope that this settlement will allow Microsoft to continue to grow and put out new products as it has for many years. That is because Charlotte is home to a Microsoft facility employing 1,000 workers who are much better paid than the average in this city.. With the economy in a downturn, it is important that the companies in our area remain strong. The last thing that is need is for government intervention to be the cause of a company's economic problems.

As a state legislator, I have always been the strongest advocate for government nonintervention into private business. Instead, I have always been strong for the state providing the best education possible so that we will have young workers prepared when Microsoft and other companies decide to locate in our state. That is why I hope that we can get this phase of the Microsoft case behind us.

Sincerely,

Rep. Connie Wilson